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PAGE 01 SAIGON 19786 011309Z

51

ACTION EA 15

INFO OCT 01, IO 13, E 15, INT 06, UPW 01, MSC 01, CIAE 00, DODE 00, JPM 04,

H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 03, RSC 01, PRS 01, SS 20, USIA 12,

ACDA 16, SFW 02, RSR 01, /134 W

R 01110Z OCT 69
FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1569
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
CINCPAC
COMNAVFORV

121361

~~SECRET~~ SAIGON 19786

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

SUBJ: CAMBODIAN COMMUNIQUE CONCERNING TERRITORIAL WATERS

1. WE WISH TO DRAW ADDRESSEE'S ATTENTION TO AFP ARTICLE DATE-LINED PHNOM PENH (APPEARED HERE SEPT 29) WHICH STATES THAT CAMBODIAN GOVERNMENT HAS ISSUED A COMMUNIQUE WHICH "SOLEMNLY DECLARES" THAT THE BREADTH OF ITS TERRITORIAL SEA IS FIXED AT 12 NAUTICAL MILES. CAMBODIAN STATEMENT, ACCORDING TO AFP, ALSO REAFFIRMS SOVEREIGNTY OVER THE CONTINENTAL SHELF AND CLAIMS EXCLUSIVE JURISDICTION AND CONTROL OVER SEABED, SUBSOIL AND ALL NATURAL RESOURCES OF SHELF.

2. OUR REFERENCE MATERIAL ON BORDER PROBLEMS, ASIDE FROM NOTING THAT CAMBODIA IN 1964 CLAIMED ISLAND OF PANJANG SOME 80 MILES SOUTHWEST OF CAMAU PENINSULA, DOES NOT COVER QUESTION OF CAMBODIAN CLAIMS OF TERRITORIAL WATERS. COMNAVFORV OPERATES UNDER CURRENT CINCPAC GUIDELINES (CINCPAC MSG 140035Z JULY 1968 (S), SUBJECT: RULES OF ENGAGEMENT - SOUTHEAST ASIA (U) WHICH STATES THAT CAMBODIA HAS IN THE PAST CLAIMED 5 MILES.

3. BECAUSE OF THE OBVIOUS IMPLICATIONS FOR FRIENDLY NAVAL OPERATIONS IN THE GULF OF SIAM, WE WOULD APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT'S VIEWS AND GUIDANCE CONCERNING THIS MOST RECENTLY

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REPORTED CAMBODIAN ACTION.

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